



Baptist
MEDICAL CENTER

9601 Interstate 630, Exit 7
Little Rock, AR 72205-7299
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August 13, 1999

Documents Branch
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane # 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

To Whom it May Concern:

I have just been made aware of the FDA proposal that providers be required to initiate a 1999 Hepatitis C Virus test "Lookback". I truly believe that this "Lookback" is extremely costly, provides no benefits, and has a high potential of frightening our population.

It seems that a better approach would be for the FDA to consider patients being Hepatitis C Virus tested when they reveal, upon a visit to a physician's office or hospital, that they have had a blood transfusion.

Please be in touch with me if you have questions regarding my concern.

Sincerely,

Doug Weeks
Senior Vice President and Administrator
Baptist Medical Center/Baptist Rehabilitation Institute

DW/ah

cc: James R. Teeter, President
Arkansas Hospital Association

99D-1878

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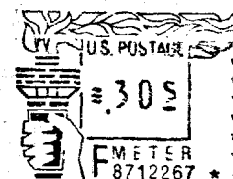
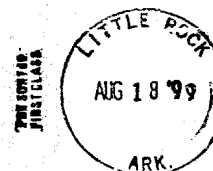


United to Improve
America's Health

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HEALTH

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